

STANDING COMMITTEE ON HOUSE OVERSIGHT, ELECTIONS, AND ETHICS

Wednesday, April 13, 2005 9:00 a.m.

Room 326 House Office Building

Representative Chris Ward, Chair, called the meeting to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Representatives Ward, Elsenheimer, Gaffney, Meisner and Gillard.

Representative Gaffney moved to approve the minutes of the **February 9, 2005** meeting, **Representative Gillard** supported the motion.

The motion prevailed by unanimous consent.

The Chair introduced Terri Lynn Land, Secretary of State.

Secretary Land gave an overview of the department and made comments about the elections in the State of Michigan. Secretary Land also talked about voter registration and absentee voting. Questions and discussion followed.

The Chair laid **HB 4275** before the committee.

HB 4275 Vander Veen Elections; canvassing; state board of canvassers procedures; clarify.

Representative Vander Veen explained her bill to the committee.

Representative Elsenheimer moved to report **HB 4275** with recommendation, **Representative Gaffney** supported the motion.

The motion prevailed by a **3-0-2 vote**.

FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Representatives Ward, Elsenheimer and Gaffney.

Nays: None.

Pass: Meisner and Gillard.

HB 4226 reported out with recommendation.

The Chair laid **HB 4481** before the committee.

HB 4481 Gaffney Elections; voting procedures; certain restrictions on requests for registration or absentee ballots; revise.

Representative Gaffney explained his bill to the committee.

Representative Elsenheimer explained his proposed amendment to **HB 4481**.

Representative Elsenheimer moved to adopt the following amendment, **Representative Gaffney** supported the motion:

1. Amend page 1, line 3, after “**492**,” by striking out “**OTHER THAN THE REQUIREMENT OF RESIDING IN THE CITY, TOWNSHIP, OR VILLAGE ON OR BEFORE THE THIRTEENTH DAY BEFORE THE NEXT REGULAR, PRIMARY, OR SPECIAL ELECTION,**”

The motion prevailed by a **5-0-0 vote**.

FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Representatives Ward, Elsenheimer, Gaffney, Meisner and Gillard.

Nays: None.

Pass: None.

Representative Elsenheimer moved to report **HB 4481** as substitute (**H-1**), **Representative Gaffney** supported the motion.

The motion prevailed by a **5-0-0 vote**.

FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Representatives Ward, Elsenheimer, Gaffney, Meisner and Gillard.

Nays: None.

Pass: None.

HB 4481 reported out with recommendation as an (H-1).

The Chair laid before the committee **HB 4570**.

HB 4570 Ward	Property tax; millage; effective date for millage reductions; revise for elections held after May 1.
---------------------	--

Representative Ward explained his bill to the committee.

James Emery, Superintendent of Ellsworth Community Schools, spoke in support of **HB 4570**.

Dan Wortuba, representing the Michigan Association School Boards, spoke in support of **HB 4570**.

Ray Telman, representing the Middle Cities Education Association, submitted a card in support of **HB 4570** but did not wish to speak.

Matt Tomasieekz, representing the Ottawa, Muskegon and Kalamazoo Intermediate School Districts, submitted a card in support of **HB 4570** but did not wish to speak.

Tom Frazier, representing the Michigan Townships Association, submitted a card in support of **HB 4570** but did not wish to speak.

Scott Schrager, representing the Michigan Department of Treasury, submitted a card in support of **HB 4570** but did not wish to speak.

Brian Whiston, representing Oakland Schools, submitted a card in support of **HB 4570** but did not wish to speak.

Nancy Stanley, representing the Macomb County Intermediate School District, submitted a card in support of **HB 4570** but did not wish to speak.

Michael Emlaw, representing the Hillsdale, Lenawee, Monroe, Washtenaw and Jackson Intermediate School Districts, submitted a card in support of **HB 4570** but did not wish to speak.

Kathleen Merry, representing the Wayne County Regional Education Service Area, submitted a card in support of **HB 4570** but did not wish to speak.

Dave Ladd, representing the Northern Michigan Schools Legislative Association, submitted a card in support of **HB 4570** but did not wish to speak.

Don Olenorf, representing Michigan Small and Rural Schools, submitted a card in support of **HB 4570** but did not wish to speak.

Representative Gaffney moved to report **HB 4570** with recommendation, **Representative Gillard** supported the motion.

The motion prevailed by a **vote of 5-0-0**.

FAVORABLE ROLL CALL :

Yeas: Representatives Ward, Elsenheimer, Gaffney, Meisner and Gillard.

Nays: None.

Pass: None.

HB 4570 reported out with recommendation.

The Chair laid before the committee **HB 4569**.

HB 4569 Ward Elections; absent voters; early in person absentee voting; amend.

Representative Ward explains his bill to the committee. He also explained proposed amendments to **HB 4569**.

Mary Hollinralce, representing the Michigan Association of County Clerks, spoke in support of **HB 4569** with some concerns.

Patricia Donath, representing the League of Women Voters of Michigan, submitted a card in support of **HB 4569** but did not wish to speak.

Representative Elsenheimer moved to adopt the following amendments to **HB 4569**, **Representative Gaffney** supported the motion:

1. Amend page 2, line 24, after “**PRECEDING**” by striking out “**A PRIMARY OR**” and inserting “**AN**”.

2. Amend page 2, line 25, after the second “**THE**” by striking out “**PRIMARY OR**”.

3. Amend page 4, line 24, after “**PRECEDING**” by striking out “**A PRIMARY OR**” and inserting “**AN**”.

4. Amend page 4, line 25, after “**ELECTION,**” by inserting “**AND THE CITY, TOWNSHIP, OR VILLAGE CLERK ENTERS INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY CLERK THAT ALLOWS ABSENT VOTERS TO VOTE AT THE COUNTY CLERK’S OFFICE,**”

The motion prevailed by a **vote of 5-0-0**.

FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Representatives Ward, Elsenheimer, Gaffney, Meisner and Gillard.

Nays: None.

Pass: None.

Representative Elsenheimer moved to report **HB 4569** as substitute (**H-1**), **Representative Gaffney** supported the motion.

The motion prevailed by a **5-0-0 vote**.

FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Representatives Ward, Elsenheimer, Gaffney, Meisner and Gillard.

Nays: None.

Pass: None.

HB 4569 reported out with recommendation as an (H-1).

With no further business to come before the committee, **the chair** adjourned the meeting, the time being **10:00 a.m.**

Representative Chris Ward

Date Approved and signed

Remecia Taylor
Assistant Committee Clerk
Dave Mead
Committee Clerk
April 13, 2005
1 hour